

## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the following new paragraph at line 15 on page 11:

In step 250, in one embodiment, the halftoning results are transmitted to a printer such as printer 20 of Figure 1.

Please amend the abstract on page 25 as indicated on the next page of this response.

A printing method and system thereof are described. The locations in a printed image for a plurality of first color (e.g., cyan) dots and the locations in the printed image for a plurality of second color (e.g., magenta) dots are determined. Locations in the printed image for a plurality of third color dots (e.g., yellow) are then determined. The locations for the third color dots are dependent on the locations of the first color dots and the locations of the second color dots. The decision on where to place third color dots is thus made after, and therefore dependent on, the decisions on where to place first color dots and second color dots. Accordingly, color fluctuations in the printed image are minimized, resulting in superior color smoothness and improving the quality of the printed image.